

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (previously presented) A copper alloy consisting essentially of 58 to 62.8 wt% of copper, 0.3 to 0.5 wt% of tin, 0.03 to 0.5 wt% of silicon, at least one of 0.3 to 3.5 wt% of lead and 0.3 to 3.0 wt% of bismuth, at least one of 0.02 to 0.15 wt% of phosphorus, 0.02 to 3.0 wt% of nickel and 0.02 to 0.6 wt% of iron, the total amount of phosphorus, nickel and iron being in the range of from 0.02 to 3.0 wt%, and the balance being zinc and unavoidable impurities, which has a hardness Hv of 80.2 to 103.1,

wherein a proportion of an alpha phase is 90 vol% or more, and

wherein an apparent content B' of zinc in said copper alloy is in the range of from 34 to 39 wt%, said apparent content B' of zinc being expressed by the following expression:

$$B' = [(B + t_1q_1 + t_2q_2 + t_3q_3 + t_4q_4) / (A + B + t_1q_1 + t_2q_2 + t_3q_3 + t_4q_4)] \times 100$$

wherein A denotes the content (wt%) of copper and B denotes the content (wt%) of zinc,  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$ ,  $t_3$  and  $t_4$  denoting zinc equivalents of tin, silicon, nickel and iron, respectively ( $t_1 = 2.0$ ,  $t_2 = 10.0$ ,  $t_3 = -1.3$ ,  $t_4 = 0.9$ ), and  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$ ,  $q_3$  and  $q_4$  denoting the contents (wt%) of tin, silicon, nickel and iron, respectively.

2-10. (cancelled).

11. (previously presented) A copper alloy as set forth in claim 1, wherein the content of copper is in the range of from 60 to 62 wt%.

12. (new) A copper alloy consisting essentially of 58 to 62.8 wt% of copper, 0.3 to 0.5 wt% of tin, 0.03 to 0.5 wt% of silicon, at least one of 0.3 to 3.5 wt% of lead and 0.3 to 3.0 wt% of bismuth, at least one of 0.02 to 0.15 wt% of phosphorus, 0.02 to 3.0 wt% of nickel and 0.02 to 0.6 wt% of iron, the total amount of phosphorus, nickel and iron being in the range of from 0.02 to 3.0 wt%, and the balance being zinc and unavoidable impurities,

wherein an apparent content  $B'$  of zinc in said copper alloy is in the range of from 34 to 39 wt%, said apparent content  $B'$  of zinc being expressed by the following expression:

$$B' = [(B + t_1q_1 + t_2q_2 + t_3q_3 + t_4q_4) / (A + B + t_1q_1 + t_2q_2 + t_3q_3 + t_4q_4)] \times 100$$

wherein A denotes the content (wt%) of copper and B denotes the content (wt%) of zinc,  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$ ,  $t_3$  and  $t_4$  denoting zinc equivalents of tin, silicon, nickel and iron, respectively ( $t_1 = 2.0$ ,  $t_2 = 10.0$ ,  $t_3 = -1.3$ ,  $t_4 = 0.9$ ), and  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$ ,  $q_3$  and  $q_4$  denoting the contents (wt%) of tin, silicon, nickel and iron, respectively.

13. (new) A copper alloy as set forth in claim 12, wherein the content of copper is in the range of from 60 to 62 wt%.